willing to change that at this particular time? I have been
receiving many letters from the churches across the state
and they certainly are in favor of LB 744, the bill that
would ban video slots. If we do not pass...if we do not
pass LB 744 this session, I don't think we have to try it
again because these video slots will spread like wildfire
through the state.   There are a lot of communities now
waiting on the decision that we are going to make here.
Senator Hannibal's amendment changes this and I just don't
think that we want to adopt that amendment.   The only
persons who stand to gain monetarily from video gambling
devices are the owners of the machines and the persons who
lease the space to them. The big losers are the ones that
play them, and in many instances, these people cannot afford
to lose that money.   They need this money to feed their
families and buy some things that are needed.   Many of the
communities, the towns and villages, feel that this is a
good source of income. They feel that it is going to reduce
their taxes. Let me tell you this.   I feel that lotteries
are an unstable source of income.   I think we are finding
that out with the ticket lotteries that we have in our
state. Many of the communities are dropping them. I think
it is best for the Legislature and the governing boards to
be upfront in our decisions.

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR HEFNER: If we need more tax money to cover our
programs, let's raise legitimate   taxes, such as, the
property taxes, the sales tax, and income tax. If we don't
want to do that, then let's cut the programs.   Let's not
rely on video slots to provide the money. Let's not make
our small towns into Las Vegases in Nebraska. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Fenger.

SENATOR FENGER: Thank you, Mr. President. Like Senator
Hefner, I serve on Miscellaneous Subjects with Senator
Hannibal. I recall his in-depth concern and his work on
LB 56. For that reason when Request 2160 was available, I
read it, not once but twice, but this morning I was handed,
as I presume you were, an explanation of the amendments to